

Conservation Activity Evaluation Tool

CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

CSP-2017-1_NH - NH BF AG Lands_Pasture

Soil Erosion

Sheet and Rill Erosion

Planning Criteria	Planning C	Planning Criteria Met	
Screening level: Permanent ground cover $> 90\%$ and slope $< 10\%$. Assessment level: The water erosion rate is $<=$ T.	Yes	No 🗌	
Evaluation Tests	Evaluation	Test Met	
Plant cover controls active erosion (shallow <1 foot deep rills/gullie and runoff from normal rain events. No litter dams or terracettes are present.		No 🗌	
Wind Erosion			
Planning Criteria	Planning C	riteria Met	
Screening level: Permanent ground cover $> 90\%$ and slope $< 10\%$. Assessment level: The wind erosion rate is $<=$ T.	Yes	No 🗌	
Evaluation Tests	Evaluation	Test Met	
Evaluation Tests All areas expected to have high erosion rates are stable.	Evaluation Yes	Test Met No	
All areas expected to have high erosion rates are stable.		No 🗌	
All areas expected to have high erosion rates are stable. Classic Gully Erosion	Yes Planning Co	No	
All areas expected to have high erosion rates are stable. Classic Gully Erosion Planning Criteria Screening level: Classic gullies are not present. Assessment level: Classic gully management is adequate to stop the progression of heacutting and widening and are offsite impacts are minimized by	Yes Planning Co	No	



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Streambank, Shoreline, Water Conveyance Channels

Planning Criteria	Planning Cr	iteria Met
Screening level: Streams, shoreline or channels are not adjacent to site. Assessment level: Bank erosion is beyond the client's control or commensurate with normal geomorphological processes, AND PCS - streambank/shoreline erosion element score is >= 4.	Yes	No
Evaluation Tests	Evaluation T	Test Met
All stream and channel banks, pond and other shorelines are stable.	Yes	No 🗌
Excluding all fundamentally unstable, natural geomorphic streambanks/shorelines, all streambanks/shorelines on the operation show few signs of erosion or bank failure. Each is stable and protected with natural materials.	Yes	No



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Soil Quality Degradation

Organic Matter Depletion

Planning Criteria	Planning C	Planning Criteria Met	
Screening level: Permanent ground cover > 80%. Assessmen The SCI is > 0, OR the PCS - plant cover element score is >= the PCS - plant residue element score is >= 4.	100	No 🗌	
Evaluation Tests	Evaluation	Test Met	
Plants are perennial, adapted to the site, productive and health	hy. Yes	No 🗌	
Compaction			
Planning Criteria	Planning (Criteria Met	
Screening level: Soil compaction is not a problem AND active not cause soil compaction problems. Assessment level: The F compaction element score is >= 4.		No	
Evaluation Tests	Evaluation	Test Met	
Soils are not compacted past a point that limits plant root dep growth.	oth and Yes	No 🗌	



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Insufficient Water

Inefficient Moisture Management

Planning Criteria	Planning Criteria Met	
Screening level: Moisture management is not a problem AND activities do not cause inefficient moisture management problems. Assessment level: The PCS - compaction element score is >= 4 AND the PCS - plant cover element score is >= 4.	Yes	No
Evaluation Tests	Evaluation Test Met	
Predominate plants are adapted to the site, usual rain fall, and are useful as intended.	Yes	No 🗌



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Water Quality Degradation

Nutrients in Surface Water

Planning Criteria	Planning Criteria Met			
Screening level: Organic or inorganic nutrients are not applied AND grazed PLU is not adjacent to streams, ponds, or lakes AND there are no confined livestock areas. Assessment level: The PCS - streambank/shoreline erosion element score is >= 4 AND the PCS - livestock concentration areas element score is >= 4, OR Nutrients are applied and based on a soil test, tissue test or nutrient budget.	Yes	No		
Evaluation Tests	Evaluation T	est Met		
If nutients are applied, they do not degrade surface/ground water quality. Water use is not limited.	Yes	No		
Livestock access to stream is controlled OR limited to small watering or crossing areas	Yes	No		
Nutrients in Ground Water				
Planning Criteria	Planning Cri	teria Met		
Screening level: Organic or inorganic nutrients are not applied AND grazed PLU is not adjacent to streams, ponds, or lakes AND there are no confined livestock areas. Assessment level: The PCS - streambank/shoreline erosion element score is >= 4 AND the PCS - livestock concentration areas element score is >= 4, OR Nutrients are applied and based on a soil test, tissue test or nutrient budget.	Yes	No		
Evaluation Tests	Evaluation T	est Met		
If nutients are applied, they do not degrade surface/ground water quality. Water use is not limited.	Yes	No 🗌		



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Excess Pathogens and Chemicals from Manure, Bio-solids or Compost Applications in Surface Water

Planning Criteria	Planning Criteria Met		
Screening level: Potential sources of pathogens or pharmaceuticals are not applied on the land. Assessment level: Organic materials are applied, stored, and/or handled to mitigate negative impacts to surface water sources.	Yes	No	
Evaluation Tests	Evaluation To	est Met	
Manure, compost, or biosolids are applied per their test report. Grazing management optimizes applied products.	Yes	No 🗌	
Livestock access to stream is controlled OR limited to small watering or crossing areas	Yes	No 🗌	
xcessive Sediment in Surface Water			
Planning Criteria	Planning Crit	teria Met	
Screening level: Permanent ground cover > 90% and slope < 10% AND classic gullies are not present AND streams or shoreline are not on or adjacent to site. Assessment level: Upslope treatment and buffer practices address concentrated flows to water bodies AND the SVAP2 - bank condition >= 5 AND the livestock and vehicle water crossings are stable AND The water erosion rate is <= T AND wind erosion rate is <= T.	Yes	No	
Evaluation Tests	Evaluation To	Evaluation Test Met	
Plant cover controls active erosion (shallow <1 foot deep rills/gullies) and runoff from normal rain events. No litter dams are present.	Yes	No 🗌	



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Air Quality Impacts

Emission of Greenhouse Gases (GHGs)

Planning Criteria	Planning Criteria Met		
Screening level: Activities are not present that produce GHGs emissions. GHG producing activities are: Fertilization(manure/commercial), CAFO/manure management, Engines (combustion source), Tillage, AND GHGs are not regulated in this planning area. Assessment level: Greenhouse gas emmissions are managed to meet client objectives.	Yes	No	
Evaluation Tests	Evaluation Test Met		
Forage Supply and Demand Balance is achieved.	Yes	No 🗌	



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Degraded Plant Condition

Undesirable Plant Productivity and Health

	Planning Criteria	Planning Criteria Met	
	Assessment level: The PCS is 30 or above. Plants are adapted to the site, meet production goals and do not negatively impact other resources.	Yes	No
	Evaluation Tests	Evaluation Te	est Met
	Plants are perennial, adapted to the site, productive and healthy.	Yes	No
<u>Ex</u>	acessive Plant Pest Pressure		
	Planning Criteria	Planning Criteria Met	
	Screening level: Plant productivity is not limited from pest pressure. Assessment level: The PCS - insect and disease pressure element score is $>= 4$ AND the PCS - site adaptation element score is $>= 4$.	Yes	No
	Evaluation Tests	Evaluation Te	est Met
	Plant growth and cover is managed as to inhibit pest plant introduction.	Yes	No



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Fish and Wildlife - Inadequate Habitat

Inadequate Habitat - Cover/Shelter

Planning Criteria	Planning Criteria Met	
Assessment level: The WHSI rating is >= 0.5 AND (when surface stream present) the SVAP2 - barriers to movement element score is >= 7 AND the SVAP2 - fish habitat complexity element score is >= 7 AND the SVAP2 - aquatic invertebrate habitat element score is >= 7, OR conservation practices and managements are in place that meet or exceed species or guild-specific habitat model thresholds, OR cover is of available quality and extent to support habitat requirements for the species of interest.	Yes	No
Evaluation Tests	Evaluation Test Met	
The plant cover provides cover and shelter for the chosen wildlife species.	Yes	No 🗌



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Inadequate Habitat - Habitat Continuity (Space)

Planning Criteria	Planning C	riteria Met
Assessment level: The WHSI rating is >= 0.5 AND (when surface stream present) the SVAP2 - barriers to movement element score is >= 7 AND the SVAP2 - aquatic invertebrate habitat element score is >= 7, OR conservation practices and managements are in place that meet or exceed species or guild-specific habitat model thresholds, OR The connectivity of habitat components are adequate to support stable populations of targeted species.	Yes	No
Evaluation Tests	Evaluation Test Met	
Connectivity between food resources and cover and shelter is provided for the chosen wildlife species. <see action="" plan="" state="" wildlife=""></see>	Yes	No 🗌
Plant cover provides space for wildlife species.	Yes	No 🗌
The land adjacent to a stream, river, or other waterbody on the side or sides you control does: - have diverse, natural plant cover typical to that along streams in your area, AND - extend from the stream bank/shoreline for a distance of 35 feet or (if applicable) the minimum State buffer-width requirement, whichever is greater.	Yes	No



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Livestock Production Limitation

Inadequate Feed and Forage

	Planning Criteria	Planning Criteria Met		
	Assessment level: When the land use has a "grazed" modifer, livestock forage, roughage and supplemental nutritional requirements addressed.	Yes	No	
	Evaluation Tests	Evaluation Te	st Met	
	The existing feed/forage quantity/quality meet the livestock needs and goals.	Yes	No	
In	adequate Water			
	Planning Criteria	Planning Crite	eria Met	
	Assessment level: When the land use has a "grazed" modifer, water of acceptable quality and quantity adequately distributed to meet animal needs.	Yes	No 🗌	
	Evaluation Tests	Evaluation Te	st Met	
	The livestock have enough drinking water of good quality.	Yes	No 🗌	



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<u>Inefficient Energy Use</u>

Farming/Ranching Practices and Field Operations

Planning Criteria	Planning Criteria Met	
Screening level: Client is not interested in improving equipment and facilities energy efficiency. Assessment level: Major components of a USDA approved energy audit have been implemented that address equipment and facilities to meet client objectives OR On-farm renewable energy and/or energy conserving practices have been implemented to meet client objectives.	Yes No	
Evaluation Tests	Evaluation Test Met	
Recommendations/components of an energy audit have been applied. The audit addressed equipment and facilities on the farm. For example, energy loss from lighting, drying, refrigeration, heating, or building insulation have been improved.	Yes No	